

Alaska FASD Partnership Steering Committee
Wednesday, February 8, 2017 – FINAL MINUTES

I. Introductions

Shannon Cross (DJJ), Stephanie Johnson (Nome Youth Facility), Deb Evensen (FASD Consultant), Noelle Miller (, Vickie Tinker (Kenai diagnostic team), Jenn Wagaman (Fairbanks diagnostic team), Lakota Holman (ANTHC), Marilyn Price-Bulger (FASDx), Michael Baldwin (Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority), Mike Jeffery (retired Superior Court Judge), Teri Tibbett (Alaska Mental Health Board, Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse)

II. Approval of Agenda Approved.

III. Approval of Minutes from 1.11.17 Approved.

IV. 5-year Plan (Governor's Counsel on Disabilities and Special Education) Tabled until next month.

V. Alaska Center for FASD

Marilyn worked at Alaska Native Health Medical Center for 25 years as a nurse midwife and in the 1990's was involved with creating a program to address the high rate of infant deaths (Nutaqsiivik). That work led to identifying many mothers who behaved in a manner consistent with a developmental disability such as an FASD. When some of these mothers were able to get a diagnosis, then they were eligible for services and able to raise one baby with support. She saw a shift in the cycle of "have a baby, OCS take the baby away". Marilyn founded the Anchorage FASD Diagnostic Team in 2009 to serve non-Native community. (Southcentral Foundation had a team from 2001-2012 to serve the Native community). The Anchorage team has completed nearly 350 diagnoses. She is analyzing the data for this team but many other teams in Alaska have been unable to do so and the state has not analyzed state-wide team data since about 2005 when the federal money ended. She has identified a need for family support after diagnosis as a high priority as they are having to do their own case management for their child with variable results in terms of ability to seek and receive needed services/supports. The statewide diagnostic teams don't have the ability to share medical records, don't have a quality assurance mechanism for the process, and the state medical services division is not involved in this medical diagnostic process. (It is entirely run through Division of Behavioral Health). The community-based team model has limitations and no planning has been done to look at an aging workforce on some teams. There are pieces of the entire system of care that need attention. Marilyn is leading an effort to start the Alaska Center for FASD with the intention of promoting best practices and advocacy efforts for enhanced prevention, early recognition/intervention, and service system change in health, behavioral health, education, OCS, and criminal justice/legal systems. The national prevalence for FASDs in the US are 24-48/1,000 children. That number is higher for children in state custody. She estimates that based on Alaska's 3,111 children in custody end of December 2016 that 525 children in state custody likely have an FASD. Looking at creating a bricks & mortar facility, probably in Anchorage, that might include direct service, consultation, advocacy, family support, statewide outreach, etc. Their first meeting was last week and 40 people attended. The next step is forming a board and becoming a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. She shared that Jarred Parrish, epidemiologist at the SOA Section of Maternal, Child, and Family Health suggested that a goal might be to focus on the potentially FASD-impacted individuals in foster care, OCS, and DJJ as first priorities.

VI. Therapeutic Foster Care Ad Hoc Workgroup Discussion

Teri gave the overview of the workgroup's efforts to date. There are 22 recommendations, with 17 pages of accompanying notes from the workgroup's discussions over the past year. Teri is reviewing document and condensing it. She will send out the draft recommendations soon for the steering committee's review.

VII. Member Updates

Lakota at ANTHC is working on Mental Health Awareness Month, destigmatizing of behavioral health issues. Mentioned a video via NTI Upstream has a video "Moment to Moment" and others. Looking for resource suggestions. Also, is planning to host an intern over the summer and is looking for project ideas the intern could undertake.

Mike Jeffery reported that the Presbyterian Church in Barrow offered a formal apology for their contributions to issues related to historical trauma of local Native people, and there were some presentations on historical trauma by Lucy Apatiki and Dorothy Bekoalok that were powerful.

Mike Baldwin reported a good resource by the Aboriginal Healing Foundation in Canada, a book: "FAS Among Aboriginal People in Canada: Review and Analysis of the Intergenerational Link to Residential Schools," website: www.ahf.ca . Also reported the Trust-sponsored FASD media campaign videos continue to be released. Marilyn Price-Bulger is featured in one of them.

Stephanie knows Lucy Apatiki, Vice President, Community Based Services, Norton Sound Health Corporation, who was a village-based counselor and is now a MA social worker. She has been a keynote speaker at the rural providers' conference in Nome, and a great resource on intergenerational trauma. She also reported on the efforts of the Nome FASD diagnostic team, and mentioned Dr. Erin Johnson at Norton Sound Regional Health Corporation who is moving ahead on developing the team. Some team members are down in Seattle receiving the diagnostic code training, others are doing the online training.

Vickie reported that she had a conversation with Tom Donaldson, executive director of NOFAS, and their program has been accepted to be a NOFAS affiliate. This will help us link in with the rest of the country, and help NOFAS link into what we're doing. Henu Community Wellness Court is being designed in Kenai part of the local Native tribe to deal with people with substance abuse where traditional means of treatment haven't worked, led by Terri Telkamp. She is also working with Love, Inc. which rallies local churches to pool resources.

Teri reported efforts in Juneau related to the legislature, that there are several bills that would affect people with FASD, families, and providers. She will make a list and send it out to Partnership members. She mentioned the presentation on FASD before the House Health & Social Services Committee on February 2 at the Capitol. The presentation can be viewed here:

<http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Meeting/Detail?Meeting=HHSS%202017-02-02%2015:00:00#tab4> 4 and here is the slide presentation they used:

http://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?session=30&docid=806.

Mike Baldwin added that the Trust's legislative priorities include an effort to address the Title IV review related to alcohol statutes, an alcohol tax increase, criminal justice reform, and Medicaid reform.

VIII. Next Regular Meeting: March 8, 2017